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## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE DAY IN 2025 OF THE SECOND NEW MOON AFTER THE WINTER SOLSTICE OF 2024 AS THE LUNAR NEW YEAR IN THE STATE OF HAWAII.

WHEREAS, 2023 marks the two hundred thirty-fourth anniversary of the first arrival of Asian immigrant workers in the State; and

WHEREAS, as of July 1, 2022, approximately 37.1 percent of the State's population, or over five hundred thousand residents of the State, are of Asian descent; and

WHEREAS, the Asian community in Hawaii has contributed greatly, not only to the State's social, civic, and economic success, but also to its diverse and vibrant culture, which includes the celebration of the Lunar New Year; and

WHEREAS, the Lunar New Year is joyously observed by numerous residents in the State and is celebrated by more than two-thirds of Chinese, Korean, Japanese, and Vietnamese Americans in general; and

WHEREAS, the Lunar New Year provides a time to renew one's family ties, reflect upon the past year, and wish for good fortune, health, and prosperity in the year ahead; and

WHEREAS, the United States House of Representatives introduced resolutions recognizing the cultural and historical significance of the Lunar New Year in 2021 and 2023; California recognized the Lunar New Year as a state holiday in 2022; and New York recognized the Lunar New Year as a public school holiday in 2023; and

WHEREAS, by recognizing the Lunar New Year in Hawaii, this body honors the State's rich cultural history, demonstrates its commitment to cultural diversity, and extends its best wishes for peace and prosperity to all who celebrate this important occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the House of Representatives concurring, that the day in 2025 of the second new moon after the winter solstice of 2024 is recognized as the Lunar New Year in the State of Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lunar New Year shall not be construed as a state holiday; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor.